

HEALTH
26 AUG 58
57

Library



PORT AND BOROUGH OF KING'S LYNN

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

(J. HAMILTON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.)

FOR THE YEAR

1957

INCLUDING THE REPORT

of the

Senior Public Health Inspector

(N. B. JONES, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.)



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2017 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b29533594>

CONTENTS

	PAGE
INTRODUCTION	5
VITAL STATISTICS — BIRTHS AND DEATHS	6
NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES	10
VACCINATION	12
IMMUNISATION	12
HOUSING	13
MISCELLANEOUS	14
WATER SUPPLY	18
SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA	18
RODENT CONTROL	22, 33
INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD	22
FACTORIES	26
PORT HEALTH	27

BOROUGH OF KING'S LYNN

Health and Port Health Committee

Chairman: Alderman T. W. BLOMFIELD, M.Inst.,M.

Alderman Mrs. A. M. FISHER

Alderman J. HARWOOD CATLEUGH, O.B.E., J.P.

Alderman C. A. FREESTONE, M.B.E.

Alderman C. POPKISS

Councillor E. A. ANDERSON

Councillor A. BACON

Councillor L. W. A. BARRETT, J.P.

Councillor E. M. BENEFER, J.P.

Councillor W. BAKER

Councillor F. BULLEN, J.P.

Councillor H. B. FISHER

Councillor F. S. GRANGE

Councillor W. J. PANTON, J.P.

Councillor J. B. D. WALTON, J.P.

Councillor W. R. WILDBUR

BOROUGH OF KING'S LYNN

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

Medical Officer of Health

J. HAMILTON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Senior Public Health Inspector

H. G. COBBOLD, M.A.P.H.I. (until 6th May, 1957)

N. B. JONES, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I. (from 7th May, 1957)

Additional Public Health Inspectors

N. B. JONES, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I. (until 6th May, 1957)

J. P. SMITH, M.A.P.H.I. (from 1st June, 1957)

Slaughterhouse Manager

N. H. OWEN, M.S.I.A. (until 7th November, 1957)

G. STEPHENSON, M.A.P.H.I. (from 25th November, 1957)

PORT AND BOROUGH OF KING'S LYNN

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

To THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS
OF THE BOROUGH OF KING'S LYNN.

Mr. Mayor, Madam, and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present for your information and consideration the Annual Report for the year 1957.

The general health of the community was good, although there were big outbreaks of Measles and Influenza during the year.

The two Ministry of Housing and Local Government Inquiries held during the year concerned 58 houses. The result of the bigger Inquiry — 52 houses — was not known when the year ended.

The Council's Clearance Proposals under Section 1 of the Housing Act, 1954, were sent to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government in July, 1955. It was estimated that there were 600 houses of the town that were unfit for human habitation, and ready to be dealt with, either individually, or in Clearance Areas, and a period of seven years would be needed to accomplish the necessary work. It was hoped that 500 or more of the 600 houses would be dealt with in a five-year programme: roughly by the end of 1960.

By the end of 1957, 152 houses had been dealt with through Clearance Schemes, and 100 by Demolition, or Closing Order procedures.

There still remains a good deal to be done to improve the housing of many in the town.

I am grateful to the Borough Engineer and Housing Manager for the special sections on Water Supplies, Sewerage, etc., and Housing matters.

I thank the Chairman and members of the Public Health Committee for their consideration.

I have the honour to be,
Your obedient Servant,
J. HAMILTON,
Medical Officer of Health.

VITAL STATISTICS

Estimated Mid-Year Population (Registrar-General): 26,500

Births.				<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>Livebirths:</i>						
Legitimate	....	....		195	188	383
Illegitimate	....	....		16	23	39
				—	—	—
				211	211	422
				—	—	—
<i>Stillbirths:</i>						
Legitimate	....	....		4	4	8
Illegitimate	...	....		1	1	2
				—	—	—
				5	5	10
				—	—	—
Deaths.						
All Ages	....	....	....	126	153	279
Infants under 1 year of age:						
Legitimate	....	....		7	4	11
Illegitimate	....	....		1	1	2
				—	—	—
				8	5	13
				—	—	—
Infants under 4 weeks of age:						
Legitimate	....	....		3	4	7
Illegitimate	....	....		1	1	2
				—	—	—
				4	5	9
				—	—	—
Tuberculosis	....	....		3	—	3
Maternal Mortality	....	....		—	1	1
Malignant Growths	....	....		25	41	66

Rates per 1,000 Population

Births	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	15.1
Births (England and Wales)				....	....	....	....	16.1
Stillbirths (per 1,000 total Live and Stillbirths)						....	....	23.1
Stillbirths (England and Wales per 1,000 total Live and Stillbirths)				....	....	....	....	22.4
Deaths	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	10.52
Deaths (England and Wales)	....			....	....	....	....	11.5
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age (per 1,000 Live Births)								30.7
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age (England and Wales per 1,000 Live Births)	....			....	....	....	....	23.0

Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age (per 1,000 Live Births)	21.3
Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age (England and Wales per 1,000 Live Births)	16.5
Deaths from Tuberculosis	0.11
Deaths from Tuberculosis (England and Wales)	0.09
Deaths from Cancer of Lung and Bronchus	0.40
Deaths from Cancer of Lung and Bronchus (England and Wales)	0.42
Deaths from Other Forms of Cancer	1.54
Deaths from Other Forms of Cancer (England and Wales)	1.66
Maternal Mortality	0.03
Maternal Mortality (England and Wales)	0.47

Births were 52 less than in the previous year. They exceeded Deaths by 153.

The number of Illegitimate Births — 41 — was the highest since 1946.

188 (67.4 per cent.) of the 279 deaths were those of persons of 65 years, and over that age.

65 (23.3 per cent.) deaths were among the 45 to 64 years old group.

The remaining percentage (approximately 10 per cent.) of the total deaths was made up of 8 in the 25 to 44; 3 in the 15 to 24; 1 in the 5 to 14; and 13 in the under 1 age groups.

126 (45 per cent.) of the deaths were the result of Diseases of the Heart and Circulation; 93 from the age of 65 onwards; 29 between 45 and 64 years; 3 between 25 and 44; and 1, in the 15 to 24 age groups.

In 66 cases (23.6 per cent.) death was due to Cancers and other Malignant Growths.

There were 13 deaths (10 males and 3 females) from Cancer of the Lung compared with 14 (9 males and 5 females) in 1956.

31 deaths (11 per cent.) were due to Respiratory Diseases: “Pneumonias” and Bronchitis. 2 deaths were Influenzal: one in January, the other in November.

Respiratory Tuberculosis was the cause of death of 3 elderly males. A Maternal death registered had occurred outside the Registration District. There has been only 1 Maternal Death — 1953 — in the District during the last 10 years.

There were 13 Infant Deaths compared with 8 in 1956. 9 of these infants were under a month old, and all of their deaths seemed to be inevitable.

CLASSIFICATION OF CAUSES OF DEATH

ACCORDING TO DISEASES

<i>Causes of Death.</i>						<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
1.	Tuberculosis: Respiratory	....	....	....	....	3	—	3
2.	Tuberculosis: Other Forms	....	....	....	....	—	—	—
3.	Syphilitic Disease	....	....	....	....	—	—	—
4.	Diphtheria	....	....	....	....	—	—	—
5.	Whooping Cough	....	....	....	....	—	—	—
6.	Meningococcal Infection	....	....	....	....	—	—	—
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis	....	....	....	....	—	—	—
8.	Measles	....	....	....	....	—	—	—
9.	Other Infective & Parasitic Diseases	....	....	....	....	—	—	—
10.	Malignant Neoplasm: Lung & Bronchus	....	....	....	....	10	3	13
11.	Malignant Neoplasm: Stomach	....	....	....	....	4	5	9
12.	Malignant Neoplasm: Breast	....	....	....	....	—	11	11
13.	Malignant Neoplasm: Uterus	....	....	....	....	—	5	5
14.	Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	....	....	....	....	11	17	28
15.	Leukaemia: Aleukaemia	....	....	....	....	—	—	—
16.	Diabetes	....	....	....	....	2	3	5
17.	Vascular Lesions, Nervous System	....	....	....	....	16	26	42
18.	Coronary Disease, Angina	....	....	....	....	16	15	31
19.	Hypertension with Heart Diseases	....	....	....	....	1	3	4
20.	Other Heart Diseases	....	....	....	....	19	20	39
21.	Other Circulatory Disease	....	....	....	....	6	4	10
22.	Influenza	....	....	....	....	—	2	2
23.	Pneumonia	....	....	....	....	10	7	17
24.	Bronchitis	....	....	....	....	6	3	9
25.	Other Diseases of the Respiratory System	....	....	....	....	1	2	3
26.	Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	....	....	....	....	3	1	4
27.	Gastritis: Enteritis: Diarrhoea	....	....	....	....	1	—	1
28.	Nephritis and Nephrosis	....	....	....	....	1	2	3
29.	Hyperplasia of Prostate	....	....	....	....	4	—	4
30.	Pregnancy: Childbirth: Abortion	....	....	....	....	—	1	1
31.	Congenital Malformations	....	....	....	....	2	2	4
32.	Other Defined and Ill-Defined Diseases	....	....	....	....	7	14	21
33.	Motor Vehicle Accidents	....	....	....	....	—	—	—
34.	All other Accidents	....	....	....	....	3	5	8
35.	Suicide	....	....	....	....	—	2	2
36.	Homicide	....	....	....	....	—	—	—

Cases of Infectious Diseases Classified in Age Groups and Localities. 1957.

DISEASE	AGE GROUPS								WARDS					
	Total all Ages	Under 1	1-5	5-15	15-25	25-45	45-65	Over 65	St.					
									Gay- wood	cen- tral	Mar- garet's Chase	South- West	North	
Scarlet Fever	4	—	1	3	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	1
Whooping Cough	60	9	42	6	2	1	—	—	14	3	3	2	15	23
Measles	1162	37	574	527	17	7	—	—	277	112	74	104	230	365
Pneumonia	39	4	8	5	—	3	9	10	6	3	5	8	7	10
Dysentery	2	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Infective Hepatitis	24	—	—	17	4	1	2	—	2	3	4	2	12	1
Polio-myelitis (Paralytic)	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis														
(Pulmonary)	15	—	—	—	5	8	1	1	3	4	1	2	3	2
Tuberculosis														
(NonPulmonary)	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Total	1309	51	625	559	29	21	13	11	305	126	87	119	269	403

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

1,309 cases of Infectious Diseases were notified: 1,089 more than in 1956. The increase was due to Measles. The 1,162 cases of Measles registered was the biggest recorded annual total since Measles became notifiable in 1940.

An epidemic of Influenza began in mid-September. It was soon going full blast through September, and the first three weeks of October. Then it began to abate, but the district was not rid of it even at the end of the year. There was little, if anything, to distinguish this Influenza epidemic from any of its predecessors. Indeed, fatalities had been more in other years, *e.g.*, there were 10 Influenza Deaths in 1951 compared with 2 in 1957.

Two Family Doctors kindly sent materials from cases to the Public Health Laboratory, for the detection, if possible, of the particular Influenzal Virus responsible for the current epidemic.

The virus was reported to be of the Influenzal Virus "A" type, but the Laboratory was unable to determine that it was of the "A" type responsible for the "Asian 'Flu."

Mumps (like Measles and Influenza, a Virus Infection) was also very much on the go at the beginning of the year. During an epidemic period from January until June, 602 cases were reported from the Schools. More than half the cases occurred in March and April. 602 could not represent the actual number of cases of Mumps for it is not a notifiable disease.

The highest annual totals of Mumps before 1957 were 159 in 1939 and 335 in 1934.

Another virus-caused Infection: Infective Hepatitis — was also prominent with 13 of its 24 notified cases in January, and 5 in May. Three-quarters of the cases were in school children, and household double-infections were common. Hand transfer spreads this disease either directly, or indirectly by articles handled in common. The obvious "habits" of a life-time formed as they should be in the home first, reinforced by the school later, should be the main obstacles to the spread of this, and the many other hand-borne infections.

This disease may be developing an epidemic inclination.

15 cases were reported in November and December, 1955. There had only been 1 notification during the previous three years. From then on until the last notification in June, 1957, cases were of regular occurrence, with an occasional increase in frequency, *e.g.*, January, 1957 (13 cases).

A case of Paralytic Poliomyelitis, an adult female, was reported in June.

15 cases of Respiratory and 1 of Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis were registered.

2 were detected by the Mass Radiography Unit that worked in the town from 7th November until 17th December, 1957.

3 had been “ Contacts ” of past family infection.

1 might have contracted infection from a work-mate.

1 had been registered in another District before moving into the town.

Housing conditions were reported to be satisfactory except in 1 case. The patient lived in a caravan. Satisfactory housing will be provided.

The following Table shows not only an improvement in the Death Rate; it also suggests that modern treatment is curtailing the spread of infection.

Tuberculosis: Notifications and Deaths, 1946 – 1957.

	<i>Respiratory Tuberculosis.</i>		<i>Other Forms of Tuberculosis.</i>	
	<i>Cases.</i>	<i>Deaths.</i>	<i>Cases.</i>	<i>Deaths.</i>
1946	25	8	4	1
1947	27	3	6	—
1948	19	12	3	1
1949	22	10	2	1
1950	42	6	5	—
1951	39	7	6	2
1952	40	3	—	—
1953	27	2	3	—
1954	11	2	3	—
1955	15	3	2	—
1956	19	—	1	—
1957	15	3	1	—

The Mass Radiography Unit visited the town for the second year running. Before that its visits, since 1950 had been biennially. The following is the report on the visit by the Unit's Medical Director, Dr. J. T. O'Riordan :—

Norwich Mass Radiography Unit King's Lynn Area X-Ray Survey 7th November — 17th December, 1957.

	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total</i>
No. of Miniature X-Ray Examinations	3,732	2,505	6,237
No. of cases of Pulmonary T.B. found:			
(a) Active cases (requiring treatment or close clinical supervision)	3	5	8
(b) Cases requiring observation at the Chest Clinic	2	0	2
(c) Inactive Post-Primary Lesions	2	0	2
(d) Previously diagnosed Cases	8	3	11

Among other Diseases discovered were:

Pneumonitis	....	....	....	....	4
Bronchiectasis	....	....	....	....	2
Emphysema	....	....	....	....	2
Bronchitis and Pulmonary Fibrosis	....				7
Cardiovascular Lesions acquired	....				7

Also Pleural Thickening, 7; Diaphragm Lesions, 2; Foreign Bodies, 1; Old Collapsed Lung, 1.

**ACTIVE CASES OF PULMONARY T.B. —
by Age Groups**

MALES				FEMALES		
	No. Examined	Active Cases	Rate per 1,000	Rate per 1,000	Active Cases	No. Examined
Under 15	58	—	—	—	—	42
15 — 19	305	1	3.27	—	—	510
20 — 24	327	1	3.05	—	—	429
25 — 34	927	—	—	5.61	3	534
35 — 44	869	1	1.15	4.35	2	459
45 — 54	777	—	—	—	—	347
55 — 59	247	—	—	—	—	104
60 — 64	162	—	—	—	—	52
65 & over	60	—	—	—	—	28
	3,732	3	0.80	1.99	5	2,505

Rate per 1,000 of active cases of total X-Rayed (6,237) — 1.28.

1,485 were X-Rayed for the first time, revealing 5 (3 male and 2 female) active cases, or 3.36 per 1,000.

4,752 were re-surveyed, resulting in 3 (female) or 0.63 per 1,000.

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

Vaccination.	<i>Primary.</i>	<i>Re-Vaccination.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
(1) <i>Smallpox.</i>			
Under 5 years	202	5	207
5 — 14 years	21	19	40
15 years and over	48	66	114
	271	90	361

The total Vaccinations exceeded those of 1956 by 139. 65 more children under 5 were vaccinated than in the previous year, and double the number done in 1955.

(2) *Tuberculosis. B.C.G. Vaccination.*

(a) Number of School Children given Tuberculin Test	339
(b) Number of School Children negative to Test	.... 242
(c) Number Vaccinated with B.C.G. ....	.... 227

Immunisation.

(1) *Diphtheria (and Whooping Cough).*

			<i>Primary.</i>	<i>Reinforcing.</i>	<i>Total</i>
Under 5 years	...	....	164	23	187
Over 5 years	....	....	4	62	64
			—	—	—
			168	85	253
			—	—	—

There was a marked decrease in the numbers immunised, 159 fewer Primary, and 137 fewer Reinforcing Innoculations than in 1956.

At least some of the reductions were due to the Poliomyelitis Immunisation Programme.

(2) *Poliomyelitis.*

845 children born during the years 1947 and 1954 were immunised against Poliomyelitis.

HOUSING

I am obliged to Miss M. L. Keith, Housing Manager, for the following Report:—

Emphasis has been on Slum-Clearance this last twelve months, and will probably continue so, for at least another year.

Seventy-five families have been re-housed from Highgate, and twenty-two from individual unfit houses in the town. Most of these families have gone to live on the Council's new extension to the North Lynn Estate, the Seabank Estate; but when preference for other areas was voiced, and the request could be met, houses on the other Estates were allocated. Most of the families have settled down well, but some find it difficult to adjust to the comparatively high rents of Council houses, in spite of a rent variation scheme. The lack of shopping facilities has been another unsettling factor, and much good will accrue when the four shops planned for the area by the Housing Committee, are in being.

Re-housing of the elderly has been the other task of absorbing interest this year. Thirty-five one-bedroomed flats and twenty one and two bedroom bungalows have been completed and occupied. The scheme at Henry Bell Close, Gaywood, when complete, will have 35 bungalows, one and two bedrooms, a Warden's house and a Community room; to date 50 per cent. of

the bungalows are occupied, the average age of the residents being 74 years.

The Housing Committee have given special consideration to the design of dwellings for the elderly in relation to safety, and convenience, ramps being fitted to bathroom walls, above the bath to aid entry and exit, light and heating points at easy range from chair and bed, and gas and electricity meters at suitable heights. Two physically-handicapped tenants had approach paths specially constructed for motorised invalid vehicles, and sinks lowered to suit their particular needs. To attempt to overcome some of the incidence of home accidents, fixtures have been provided for the attachment of tenants' fireguards.

Unemployment has caused some rise in the arrears, but this is not serious as yet, and no very great rise in the financial aid given in the form of rebates has resulted. The rent variation scheme continues to run smoothly with a minimum of administrative burden, in spite of the fact that every family in receipt of a rebate has the financial circumstances checked every 13 weeks. Co-operation from the firms in the town has been extremely good, which factor alone has been a great help in the smooth running of the scheme.

The total number of tenancies controlled by the Corporation to date is 2,587.

Clearance Schemes.

1. *King's Lynn (Railway Cottages) Clearance Order, 1957.*

This Clearance Order, made by the Council on 1st May, and concerning the six houses known as Railway Cottages, was the subject of a Ministry of Housing and Local Government Inquiry on 26th September, 1957.

The Order was confirmed by the Ministry on 22nd November, 1957.

2. *King's Lynn (North Street and Pilot Street) Clearance Order, 1957.*

This Clearance Order affecting 52 houses was made by the Council on 26th June, 1957. The Order was the subject of a Ministry of Housing and Local Government Inquiry on 30th October, 1957.

MISCELLANEOUS

1. Atmospheric Pollution.

The West Norfolk Fertilisers Company decided to replace the two stacks of the Process Building by a single, higher stack to carry off the emissions from the premises. This higher point of discharge should considerably lessen the objectionable effects of the "blow-downs" from the lower stacks, that have been occurring in heavy, squally weather.

The following Table gives measurements of the amounts of Sulphur Dioxide taken from the air expressed as milligrams of Sulphur Trioxide per day, per 100 square centimetres of Standard Lead Peroxide exposed in Standard apparatus. The estimates were made monthly by the Public Analyst (Dr. S. Greenburgh, Cambridge). 1956 figures are in parentheses.

Month	Saddlebow Road	Atbara Terrace	Corporation Depot
January	1.84 (2.593)	2.50 (1.885)	1.69 (1.758)
February	2.92 (3.099)	2.49 (4.460)	1.53 (1.563)
March	2.428 (5.025)	1.676 (0.856)	1.082 (0.905)
April	2.323 (2.651)	0.815 (0.878)	0.731 (0.824)
May	1.677 (1.197)	1.038 (0.830)	0.644 (0.514)
June	1.873 (0.508)	0.686 (1.262)	0.475 (0.475)
July	1.737 (0.436)	0.648 (0.455)	0.372 (0.450)
August	1.346 (2.448)	0.630 (0.738)	0.375 (0.459)
September	1.959 (3.425)	1.062 (0.922)	0.635 (0.486)
October	1.238 (1.655)	1.304 (1.347)	1.379 (1.092)
November	4.520 (2.742)	1.427 (1.466)	1.173 (1.325)
December	2.570 (1.45)	2.363 (1.46)	1.543 (1.09)
Monthly Average	2.20 (2.27)	1.38 (1.38)	0.96 (0.91)

Overall there seems little difference, but none of the months registered at Atbara Terrace, or Saddlebow Road, reached the totals that were recorded at these places in February and March, 1957.

SMOKING AND CANCER OF THE LUNG

The Council on 27th November resolved to publish the following statement connecting Smoking with the development of Lung Cancer:

1. There is no doubt that there is an association between smoking and Lung Cancer.
2. 18,000 died from Cancer of the Lung in 1956.
3. Groups of heavy cigarette smokers were found to have had a Lung Cancer Death Rate nearly 40 times higher than non-smokers.

Evidence has suggested that 1 in 8 of heavy smokers will die of Lung Cancer against 1 in 300 of non-smokers.

4. Pipe and cigar smokers are relatively immune.
5. It is certain that the heavier the cigarette smoking, the greater the risk. He who smokes 20 and over a day takes a really bigger chance than the smoker of only ten a day.

This statement would be made public through:—

- (a) A weekly advertisement for a period of six months in the local Press (changed later to a fortnightly insertion).

- (b) by means of printed slips with the Rate Demand Notes.
- (c) inclusion in the text of the Housing Tenants' Handbook.

A few posters on the subject were exhibited in public offices.

The number of deaths from Cancer of the Lung has risen greatly in the last generation, *e.g.*,

2,000	deaths in 1931
17,000	deaths in 1955
18,000	deaths in 1956
19,118	deaths in 1957

ANNUAL REPORT

of

Senior Public Health Inspector

on the

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

The Borough Engineer has kindly supplied the following information concerning the Town's Water Supply, Sewerage, and Disposal of Refuse Services:—

Water.

1. The water supply of the area has been satisfactory in both quality and quantity during the year. 55 samples of treated water have been taken from consumers' taps during the year, and also regular sampling of raw water from the Corporation's Wells and Boreholes at Gayton and Hillington has been undertaken. A total of 310 samples have been submitted for analysis and negative bacteriological results were reported in every case.

The unsatisfactory drainage arrangements at the County Council's Home at Eastgate House, Gayton, to which mention has been made in two previous years' reports, has been the subject of correspondence with the County Council, and as a result certain minimum works have been put in hand. The matter is, however, still under observation.

2. The waste detection service has continued during the year with satisfactory results, although it is felt that better results would be obtained if a larger staff were employed on this work.

3. The total consumption of water for 1957 showed an overall increase of 2·5 per cent., but for purely domestic purposes consumption showed a decrease of 1·5 per cent. compared with the previous year.

4. No economy appeals were necessary during the year.

5. New distribution mains have been laid to supply new Housing development off South Wootton Lane, and supplies were effected to 228 additional houses during the year.

Sewerage.

1. The reinstatement of the Pumping Station in Blackfriars Road which deals with the sewerage from the Wellesley Street, Portland Street district, and which had been wrecked in the previous year as a result of a coal-gas explosion, was completed and the plant brought back into full operation.

2. The establishment of new Factory premises for Messrs. Campbell's Soups Ltd., and the necessary scheme for disposal of the trade effluent has occupied a good deal of time during the year. The terms of the trade effluent Agreement have been settled and new works comprising a Pumping Station and Outfall rising main designed, to deal with a total of 1,000,000 gallons of effluent per day, discharging into the tidal section of the River Nar.

3. No further extensions have been made to the Sewerage system in the town, and again due to the restriction on capital expenditure no progress has been made with the programme of Private Street Works, which would have provided Sewers, and paved surfaces where none exist at present.

Public Cleansing.

There is no material change to record in this section of the Corporation's work as shown during the year. Propaganda has continued to keep the town free from litter and litter-baskets have been provided.

Refuse Disposal.

Controlled tipping has been carried out at Hardings Pits off Wisbech Road, and no complaints of nuisance have been received during the year. This tip was completed at the end of the year, and preliminary steps have been taken to move to a new site off Hardwick Road at the beginning of 1958.

Swimming Bath.

18 samples of Swimming Bath water were taken from the Corporation Swimming Bath and submitted to the Public Analyst. The results of all the samples indicated that the water was suitable for bathing purpose, although one sample showed that the water had been over-chlorinated. In two cases the Analyst recommended an increase in chlorination. In three other cases he advised the emptying and re-filling of the bath.

Three samples were taken from the Swimming Bath at the King Edward VII Grammar School.

The results showed that the water was suitable for bathing purposes, although in one sample it was recommended that the bath be emptied and re-filled.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

The following is a Summary of the work done during the year under the various Public Health and Housing Acts, viz.:—

- 339 Special Complaints and Visits were made.
- 32 Informal Notices and Intimations served.
- 5 Statutory Notices served.

Details:

Roofs repaired or renewed	....	....	....	....	5
W.C. roofs repaired	....	....	....	....	2
Windows repaired, renewed or made to open	....	....	....	....	3
Miscellaneous defects	....	....	....	....	25
Floorboards repaired or renewed	....	....	....	....	3

Stoves repaired or renewed	....	....	....	....	1
Ceiling plaster renewed	....	....	....	....	8
Wall plaster repaired	....	....	....	....	5
Drains re-laid or repaired	....	....	....	....	4
W.C. seats repaired or renewed	....	....	....	....	2
W.C. pans renewed	....	....	....	....	2
Water closet cisterns repaired or renewed	....	....	....	....	4
Dampness to walls	....	....	....	....	4
Drains cleared	....	....	....	....	50
Rainwater pipes repaired or renewed	....	....	....	....	1
Stair-treads and riser repaired	....	....	....	....	1
Eaves gutters provided and fixed	....	....	....	....	4
Walls repaired	....	....	....	....	8
Inspection chambers provided	....	....	....	....	2
Chimneys repaired	....	....	....	....	1
New sinks provided	....	....	....	....	1

HOUSING STATISTICS

1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year.

1. (a) Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health and Housing Acts)	....	....	....	....	575
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	....	....	....	....	741
2. (a) Number of dwellinghouses included under sub-head (1) above, which were inspected and re-inspected under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	....	....	....	....	114
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	....	....	....	....	217
(c) (1) The number of houses that on inspection were considered to be unfit for human habitation	....	....	....	....	35
(2) The number of houses the defects in which were remedied in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	....	....	....	....	39
(3) The number of Representations made to the Local Authority with a view to:—					
(a) the serving of notices requiring the execution of works	....	....	....	....	3
(b) the making of Demolition or Closing Orders	....	....	....	....	35
(4) The number of notices served requiring the execution of works	....	....	....	....	3
(5) The number of houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices, by owners	....	....	....	....	2

(6) The number of houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices by Local Authority in default of owners	....	....	Nil
(7) The numbers of Demolition or Closing Orders made	....	....	31
(8) The number of houses in respect of which an undertaking was accepted under Sub-Section 3, Section 11, Housing Act, 1936	....	....	4
(9) Number of houses demolished	....	....	73
3. Proceedings by Public Health Acts:—			
(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	....	....	2
(2) Number of such dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—			
(a) By Owners	....	....	2
(b) By Local Authority	....	....	Nil

Common Lodging Houses.

There are two registered Common Lodging Houses in the area, which have been re-visited periodically.

Re-Housing.

60 premises used for human habitation were visited to ascertain more complete information for the assessment of need for housing applicants.

Meetings with Owners and Tradesmen.

65 meetings were held with Owners and Tradesmen with regard to requirements concerning defective houses, drains, etc.

House Drains.

During the year 112 drains were tested and examined, and appropriate action taken.

Tents, Vans and Sheds.

82 inspections to Tents, Vans and Sheds were made in respect of licences under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

Eradication of Bed Bugs and Fleas.

24 rooms were disinfected for vermin. In all cases advice was given, and the Council's offer to assist with disinfection was accepted.

In addition, 210 rooms of Council houses were treated following vacation of the premises.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

Two Rodent Operators were employed throughout the year and sewer treatment was carried out by them during June and December.

Arrangements have been made with several of the business premises which store quantities of food for them to be under the constant supervision of the Corporation's Rodent Operatives, and for all treatment to be carried out by them. This arrangement has been found eminently satisfactory from the point of view of both the occupier and the Corporation.

Offensive Trades.

The number of Offensive Trades on the register at the end of the year was as follows:—

Gut Scrapers	....	....	....	....	2
Rag and Bone Dealers			....	....	2
Tripe Boilers	....	....	....	....	1

37 visits were made to the above premises.

Disinfection.

Aerial disinfection was carried out to 229 rooms and 13 Nursing Home Wards.

29 miscellaneous articles and 13,050 sacks were disinfected at the Steam Disinfector.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk.

The following Licences were granted by the Local Authority:

- 3 Licences for Pasteurising Establishments.
- 30 Dealers' Licences to retail Pasteurised and T.T. Milk.
- 13 Dealers' Licences to retail Sterilised Milk.

Two samples of milk were taken monthly from the three Pasteurising Establishments.

All samples satisfied the requirements of the Milk (Special Designations) (Pasteurised Milk) Regulations, 1949.

30 samples of Raw Milk were submitted to the Public Analyst who reported them to be genuine.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955.

12 samples of Sausages have been submitted to the Public Analyst, 11 were reported to be genuine and 1 sample contained only 60·0 per cent. meat. The meat contents were as follows:—

<i>Sample No.</i>	<i>Price per lb.</i>	<i>Meat Content</i>	<i>Analyst's Remarks</i>
47	3/2d.	65.3%	Genuine
48	3/-	75.1%	Genuine
49	3/-	65.5%	Genuine
50	3/-	67.2%	Genuine
51	3/-	60.0%	—
52	2/11d.	65.2%	Genuine
63	2/8d.	69.2%	(Repeat of Sample No. 51)
64	3/2d.	69.5%	Genuine
65	3/-	68.9%	Genuine
66	2/9d.	71.0%	Genuine
67	3/-	69.5%	Genuine
68	3/-	79.9%	Genuine

Ice Cream.

16 samples of Ice Cream have been taken. 4 samples have been submitted to the Public Analyst, who reported them to be Genuine. 12 samples were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory.

The Methylene Blue (Provisional Grading) Test results were as follows:—

Grade I	....	9
Grade II	....	6
Grade III	....	1

Markets.

150 visits were made to Markets during the year.

CARCASSES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR IN PART

	<i>Cattle excluding Cows</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>	<i>Horses</i>
Number killed	1842	41	69	2073	5607	Nil
Number Inspected	1842	41	69	2073	5607	Nil
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci :— Whole carcasses condemned	1	6	1	11	18	Nil
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned	607	23	5	14	210	Nil
Percentage of the number inspec- ted affected with diseases other than Tuberculo- sis and Cysticerci	33.0	70.7	8.67	1.21	4.07	Nil
Tuberculosis only: Whole carcasses condemned	5	1	—	—	4	Nil
Carcases of which some part of organ was con- demned	89	6	2	—	90	Nil
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with Tuberculo- sis	5.1	17.07	2.9	—	1.65	Nil
Cysticercosis :— Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned	—	—	—	—	—	Nil
Carcases submit- ted to treatment by refrigeration	—	—	—	—	—	Nil
Generalised and totally con- demned	—	—	—	—	—	Nil

Other Foods.

1286 tins Peaches	2281 tins Milk
206 tins Corned Beef	419 tins Plums
78 tins Minced Beef	388 tins Beans
252 tins Fruit Cocktail	17 tins Rhubarb
133 tins Soup	37 tins Pilchards
320 tins Stewed Steak	448 tins Pineapple
5 tins Cream	60 tins Carrots
4 tins Greengages	37 tins Cooked Rice
5557 tins Peas	294 tins Luncheon Meat
17 tins Herrings	60 jars Horseradish Sauce
110 jars Jam	80 tins Oranges
410 tins Cherries	21 tins Salmon
781 tins Apricots	27 tins Ham
11 tins Jellied Veal	203 tins Pears
133 lbs. Bacon	12 tins Tongue
9 tins Syrup	240 lbs. Fish
50 tins Grapefruit	2 tins Coffee
206 lbs. Cheese	60 lbs. Prunes
21 tins Sardines	38 tins Raspberries
105 tins Beetroot	345 tins Tomatoes
187 tins Strawberries	11 tins Mixed Vegetables
2 jars Onions	29 tins Crab
175 lbs. Sausages	11 lbs. Butter
1244 lbs. Meat	710 tins Gooseberries
897 tins Apples	111 lbs. Ham
2 tins Blackberries	6 tins Spaghetti

Clean Food Campaign.

The number of premises registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, are:—

- 49 Premises for the sale of Preserved and Potted Meat, etc.
- 24 Fish Shops.
- 102 Premises for the storage and sale of Ice Cream.
- 46 Dairies registered under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949–1954.
- 110 Inspections were carried out on premises for the sale of Preserved and Potted Meat, etc.
- 72 Visits were made to Fish Shops.
- 60 Visits were made to Premises licenced for the storage and sale of Ice Cream.
- 92 Visits were made to Dairies and Milk Shops.

Food Hygiene Regulations.

131 visits were made to premises under these Regulations.

FACTORIES

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		Occupiers Prosecuted
		Inspections	Written Notices	
Factories with Mechanical Power	151	85	Nil	Nil
Factories without Mechanical Power	29	2	Nil	Nil
Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	16	16	Nil	Nil
Total	196	104	Nil	Nil
DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES.				
Particulars	Found	Remedied	Number of Cases in which Defects were found	
			To H.M. Inspector	Referred By H.M. Inspector
Want of Cleanliness	1	1	—	1
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable Temperature	—	—	—	—
Inadequate Ventilation	—	—	—	—
Ineffective Drainage of Floors	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences:—				
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or Defective	1	1	—	1
(c) Not separated for sexes	—	—	—	—
Other Offences	—	—	—	—
Total	2	2	—	2

KING'S LYNN PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Port Medical Officer of Health

PORT OF KING'S LYNN

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

To THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS,
OF THE BOROUGH OF KING'S LYNN.

Mr. Mayor, Madam, and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Report of the Port Health Service for the year 1957.

The ships that called at the Port were free from notifiable Infectious Diseases.

8 nuisances were detected during 529 routine inspections, and these were dealt with without need for Statutory proceedings.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

J. HAMILTON,

Medical Officer of Health.

PORT OF KING'S LYNN

Section I. STAFF.

<i>Name of Official</i>	<i>Nature of Appointment</i>	<i>Date of Appointment</i>	<i>Qualifications</i>	<i>Any other Appointments held</i>
J. HAMILTON	Port Medical Officer of Health.	18.2.49	M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (D.T.M., D.T.H.).	Medical Officer of Health, Borough of King's Lynn; Medical Officer of Health, Freebridge Lynn R.D.C.; Assistant County Medical Officer, Norfolk County Council.
H. G. COBBOLD	Senior Port Health Inspector.	11.5.36 to 6.5.57	M.A.P.H.I., Cert. Meat & Other Foods.	Senior Public Health Inspector, Borough of King's Lynn.
N. B. JONES	do.	From 7.5.57	M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., Cert. Meat & Other Foods. Cert. Food Hygiene. Cert. Master Marine.	do.
N. B. JONES	Port Health Inspector.	1.9.51 to 6.5.57	do.	Public Health Inspector, Borough of King's Lynn.
J. P. SMITH	do.	1.6.57	M.A.P.H.I., Cert. Meat & Other Foods.	do.

Address and Telephone Number of the Medical Officer of Health :—

Offices: Town Hall, King's Lynn. *Telephone:* King's Lynn 5001-6, Ext. 5.

15, Nelson Street, King's Lynn. *Telephone:* King's Lynn 3643.

Residence: "Elmina," Ashwicken, King's Lynn. *Telephone:* Ashwicken 206.

Address and Telephone Number of the Port Health Inspector :—

Offices: Town Hall, King's Lynn *Telephone:* King's Lynn 5001-6, Ext. 6.

Residence: 19, Queen Mary Road, Gaywood, King's Lynn. *Telephone:* King's Lynn 4519.

Section II. Amount of Shipping Entering the District during the Year. TABLE B.

Ships from	Number	Tonnage	Number Inspected		Number of Ships reported as having, or having had during the voyage Infectious Disease on Board
			By the Medical Officer of Health	By the Port Health Inspector	
Foreign 	359	90291	9	339	Nil
Coastwise 	567	167744	10	190	Nil
TOTAL 	926	258035	19	529	Nil

Section III. Character of Shipping and Trade during the Year. TABLE C.

Passenger Traffic :	Number of Passengers	INWARDS: 14 British	50 Alien	Total: 64
	Number of Passengers	OUTWARDS: 13 British	16 Alien	Total: 29
Cargo Traffic:	Principal IMPORTS:	Petroleum, Fertiliser, Timber, Grain, Compounds, and General.		
	Principal EXPORTS:	Grain, Pig Iron, and General.		
Principal Ports from which the Ships arrive:	Rotterdam, Antwerp, Hamburg, Wismar, Casablanca, Bremen, Archangel, Breda, Mantyluotto, Amsterdam, Barcelona, Oskars- hamm, Huelva, Danzig, Petchero, Halmstadt, Karlsham, Rostock.			

Section IV. Inland Barge Traffic.

Nil.

Section V. Water Supply.

No change.

Section VI. Public Health (Ships) Regulations, 1952.

- (1) *List of Infected Areas* (Regulation 6).

As soon as the World Health Organisation's Weekly Epidemiological Record is received an abstract is made by the Port Medical Officer of any information likely to affect the Port; this is then sent, in form, to the Offices of the Harbour Master and Officer-in-Charge, H.M. Waterguard, for the information of these Officials and Pilots. This is a routine weekly procedure.

- (2), (3), (4), (5). No change.

Section VII. Smallpox.

- (1) *Hospital.*

By the arrangements of the East Anglian Regional Hospital Board, the Smallpox Hospital for the area is:—
St. Helen's Hospital, Ipswich.

- (2) *Transport.*

The Ambulance Transport is provided by the Ipswich Ambulance Service.

- (3) *Smallpox Consultants.*

- (a) Dr. W. M. Oliver, M.B.E., Norfolk and Norwich Hospital, Norwich.
- (b) Dr. A. G. Smith, 24, Unthank Road, Norwich.
- (c) Dr. R. A. Leader, Elm Street, Ipswich.

- (4) *Facilities of Laboratory Diagnosis of Smallpox.*

Specimens would be sent to Dr. F. O. MacCallum, Virus Reference Laboratory, Central Public Health Laboratory, Colindale Avenue, The Hyde, London, N.W.9. Notification of despatch would be given by telephone (Colindale 7041).

Section VIII. Venereal Disease.

Venereal Diseases Clinics are held as follows at the West Norfolk and King's Lynn General Hospital:—

- (a) *Male.* 7 p.m. Tuesday and Friday.
- (b) *Females and Children.* 3 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday.

Leaflets giving these details, and the situation of the Hospital are delivered to the Master of every vessel arriving at the Quayside and Docks. Posters showing the information are exhibited in the Docks, *e.g.*, in the Dockside conveniences.

In-patient facilities can be provided at the King's Lynn Hospital, and the Laboratory at the General Hospital undertakes the examinations of specimens (Blood, etc.).

Section IX. Cases of Notifiable and Other Infectious DISEASES ON SHIPS

Table D

Category	Disease	Number of Cases during the year.		Number of Ships concerned
		Passen- gers	Crew	
Cases landed from ships from Foreign Ports	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Cases which have occurred on Ships from Foreign Ports but have been disposed of before arrival	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Cases landed from Other Ships	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

Section X. Observations on the Occurrence of Malaria in Ships.

No cases were reported.

Section XI. Measures taken against Ships Infected with or Suspected for Plague.

No action.

Section XII. Measures against Rodents in Ships from Foreign Ports.

With the co-operation of the Port Authorities, arrangements have been made for:—

- (a) All ropes, warps, etc., used for mooring the ship to be fitted with canvas rat-guards, 2 ft. long, to be daily coated with tar, or fitted with shield, or discs. All rat-guards are fitted clear of the ships and quay, and are adjusted with the rise and fall of the tide.
- (b) No gangways, chutes or planks, etc., connecting the ship to the shore, except those in actual use, are permitted. Those in use are withdrawn as soon as possible at night.

These measures are carried out as a practice on all vessels from African Ports, and grain-carrying ships, when conditions in the latter case allow it.

1. **Procedure for Inspection of Ships for Rats.**

Regular inspection of ships are carried out by the Port Health Inspectors and Rodent Operatives.

2. **Arrangements for the Bacteriological or Pathological Examination of Rodents.**

Post-mortem examination and examinations of stained films can be done at the Port Health Office. The Norwich Public Health Laboratory Service is also available, for bacteriological and pathological examinations.

No rats were examined during the year.

3. **Arrangements in the District for De-Ratting Ships, the Methods used, etc.**

The Port is not a "Designated Approved Port."

4. **Progress in the Rat-proofing of Ships.**

Generally satisfactory.

Rodents Destroyed during the Year in Ships from Foreign Ports.

<i>Category.</i>						<i>Number.</i>
Black Rats	....	....	....	....	....	Nil
Brown Rats	....	....	....	....	....	Nil
Species not known	....	....	....	....	....	Nil
Sent for examination	....	....	....	....	....	Nil
Infected with Plague	....	....	....	....	....	Nil

Two Rodent Operatives are employed jointly by the King's Lynn Borough and Port Health Authority. In addition to the inspections made by the Port Medical Officer and Port Public Health Inspectors, the ships in the Port, Quay, Wharves and Warehouses, in the vicinity of the Docks, are inspected by the Rodent Operatives systematically.

In general, the wharves and warehouses, of modern construction, are rat-proof.

It was not necessary for any rat destruction to be carried out on vessels arriving at the Docks.

Approximately 95 brown rats and no black rats were destroyed from the Docks, Quay, Wharves and Warehouses during the year.

TABLE F.
De-Ratting Certificates and De-Ratting Exemption Certificates issued during the Year for
Ships from Foreign Ports

	After Fumigation with Other Fumigant (state method)	After Trapping	After Poisoning	Total	Number of De-Ratting Exemption Certificates issued	Total Certificates issued
HGN						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.
Prevention of Damage by Pests (Application to Shipping) Act, 1951.

Number of applications received for granting Rodent Control Certificates — 1.
Number of vessels inspected for the purpose of granting Rodent Control Certificates — 1.
Number of Rodent Control Certificates granted in accordance with Article 3 (2) (b) of the Order — 1
Number of Inspections of Dock Premises — 425.

Section XIII. INSPECTION OF SHIPS FOR NUISANCES.

Table G.

Nature and Number of Inspections	Inspections and Notices		
	Notices Served		Result of Serving Notices
	Statutory Notices	Other Notices	
Routine Inspection	Nil	8	Nuisances abated
Total	Nil	8	

Section XIV. Public Health (Shellfish) Regulations, 1934 and 1948.

The only complaint about the edibility of Shellfish came from a London Borough; a complaint about a taste of “disinfectant” from sacks of Mussels supplied by a King’s Lynn Shellfish trader.

The Mussels had been sent to London in sacks that had contained Fertiliser and so had become tainted.

Shellfish are as liable to be tainted as any Foodstuffs, and Shellfish traders were advised, by letter, about this event and how to avoid a recurrence of it.

Because of repeated adverse reports on the purity of Mussels taken from the Nun Buoy Scalp, the Eastern Sea Fisheries Joint Committee published an Order dated 17th April, 1957, prohibiting the removal of mussels from the Nun Buoy Scalp from 23rd April, 1957, without the consent of the Joint Committee.

The Nun Buoy Scalp had, in effect, ceased to provide mussels for the market.

Thief Sand Scalp was in use for that purpose. Samples were taken and sent to the Public Health Laboratory, Norwich, for examination:—

1. *25th February, 1957. Mussels from Thief Sands.*

Probable number of coliform bacilli per ml. of mussel flesh = 6.

Probable number of faecal coli per ml. of mussel flesh = 4.

2. *26th March, 1957. (a) Mussels from Thief Sands: Teetotal Side.*

Probable number of faecal coli per ml. of mussel flesh = less than 1.

(b) Mussels from Thief Sands: Whiting Side.

Probable number of faecal coli per ml. of mussel flesh = 1.

3. *4th October, 1957. (a) Mussels from Thief Sands: Teetotal Side.*

Probable number of faecal coli per ml. of mussel flesh = 2.

(b) Mussels from Thief Sands: Middle.

Probable number of faecal coli per ml. of mussel flesh = less than 1.

All these results were within the limit of the Provisional Public Health Laboratory Standard of “Satisfactory” (0 – 5 faecal coli per ml. of mussel flesh).

Section XV. Medical Inspection of Aliens (Applicable only to Ports approved for the Landing of Aliens).

The Port is not a Port that is approved for the landing of Aliens.

Section XVI. Miscellaneous.

Burial Arrangements.

The interment of the dead is carried out by the Local Authority in accordance with the National Assistance Act, 1948.

In the case of a death on board ship from infectious disease, burial arrangements would be those detailed by the Medical Officer.

Conclusion.

I have to thank the Officers of H.M. Customs, King's Lynn Conservancy Board, British Transport Commission (Docks), Eastern Sea Fisheries Joint Committee, the Shipping Companies and the owners of Commercial premises in the Docks, for their willing help and ready co-operation.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

J. HAMILTON,

Port Medical Officer of Health.

